

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 00332 01 OF 02 312143Z

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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 0332

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SUBJ: 19TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL, UNITED NATIONS FUND
FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES (UNFPA) (ITEM 13)

SUMMARY: 25 DELEGATIONS ACKNOWLEDGED THEIR ENLARGED AWARENESS AND ACCEPTANCE INTERRELATIONSHIPS POPULATION WITH OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS ESPECIALLY FOOD PRODUCTION. CREDIT FOR CREATING INCREASED WORLD AWARENESS POPULATION MATTERS GIVEN UNFPA WHOSE OVERALL PERFORMANCE ALSO WIDELY PRAISED. UNFPA ADDITIONALLY RECEIVED WIDESPREAD SUPPORT COUNCIL MEMBERS FURTHER STRENGTHENED ITS COORDINATION ROLE. NINE COUNTRIES ANNOUNCED CONTRIBUTION OF \$31 MISSION FOR 1975, SEVERAL OTHERS INDICATED PLANNED INCREASES AND UNFPA EXPRESSED REASONABLE CERTAINTY OF RECEIPT \$68 MILLION CONTRIBUTIONS IN 1975. INCREASE FROM \$68 TO \$80 MILLION PROGRAM AUTHORITY FOR UNFPA PROJECTS IN 1975 APPROVED. MANY COUNTRIES INDICATED DESIRE SEE FURTHER RAISE 1975 APPROVED AUTHORITY AT JUNE GC MEETING IF MORE CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED. COUNCIL ALSO APPROVED FOUR LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS AS RECOMMENDED BY UNFPA AND ONE FOR PERU AFTER REVISION (PROJECT APPROVAL CUT FROM FOUR TO ONE YEAR AND FROM \$2.8 MILLION TO \$700,000) AGREED TO BY PERU DEL IN RESPONSE COMMENTS BY U.S. AND OTHERS DURING DEBATE. ACTION BY PERU GOOD EXAMPLE REFRESHING ATMOSPHERE COOPERATION AND ACCOMMODATION WHICH

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 USUN N 00332 01 OF 02 312143Z

INCLUDED MORE POSITIVE STATEMENTS THAN IN PAST FROM BRAZIL,

CHILE, LESOTHO, INDIA, SUDAN. FACT THAT REQUESTS FOR UNFPA ASSISTANCE FOR FIRST TIME FAR EXCEED RESOURCES RECOGNIZED AS SERIOUS PROBLEM. LDC COUNCIL MEMBERS ACKNOWLEDGED THEIR CONCERN THAT RESOURCE LIMITATIONS WILL SERIOUSLY RESTRICT EXPANSION OF UNFPA-ASSISTED LDC POPULATION ACTIVITIES. END SUMMARY.

1. FIVE HOUR DEBATE OPENED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UNFPA SALAS (FULL TEXT POUCHED DEPARTMENT) WHO SPOKE OF SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS VIA WORLD POPULATION YEAR ACTIVITIES AND WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE (WPC) CREATE INCREASED WORLD-WIDE AWARENESS POPULATION PROBLEMS. AS RESULT POLITICAL CONSENSUS INVOLVING 137 COUNTRIES HAD BEEN REACHED ON POPULATION MATTERS AND NOTABLY ON ADOPTION OF A WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION, WHICH EXPRESSED AS FOLLOWS: "ALL COUPLES AND INDIVIDUALS HAVE THE BASIC RIGHT TO DECIDE FREELY AND RESPONSIBLY THE NUMBER AND SPACING OF THEIR CHILDREN AND TO HAVE THE INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND MEANS TO DO SO; THE RESPONSIBILITY OF COUPLES AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE EXERCISE OF THIS RIGHT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE NEEDS OF THEIR LOVING AND FUTURE CHILDREN AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS THE COMMUNITY." SALAS ALSO REFERRED TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE AND ITS RESOLUTION SEEKING ACHIEVEMENT OF DESIRABLE BALANCE BETWEEN POPULATION AND FOOD SUPPLY; 29TH GA ENDORSING THE WPPA AS ANOTHER HIGHPOINT OF WPY ACTIVITIES AND AS GROWING RECOGNITION INTERRELATIONSHIP OF POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT VARIABLES. SAID UNFPA WAS READY SERVE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ECOSOC AND WORLD FOOD COUNCIL BECAUSE OF INEVITABLE, LONG-RUN RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FOOD AND POPULATION.

2. SALAS DESCRIBED MAGNITUDE LARGE INCREASES IN REQUESTS FOR UNFPA ASSISTANCE OF PAST SIX MONTHS ATTRIBUTING THEM LARGELY TO SUCCESSFUL AWARENESS-RAISING EFFORTS ADDING THAT FOLLOWING NEW TRENDS EMERGING, IN REQUESTS: INCREASE IN REQUESTS ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILY PLANNING; FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BASIC POPULATION DATA; TO MEET MORE OF LOCAL COSTS PROGRAMS AND REQUESTS TO PROVIDE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AS DISTINGUISHED FROM PROVISION OF FOREIGN EXPERTS. SALAS REPORTED TOTAL UNFPA DEMAND FOR 1975 WAS FOR BETWEEN \$120 MILLION AND \$160 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE BUT THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 USUN N 00332 01 OF 02 312143Z

AS A RESULT HIS RECENT WIDERANGING CONSULTATIONS WITH PRINCIPAL UNFPA DONORS AND OTHERS, HE NOW CONVINCED UNFPA OBLIGED SCALE DOWN ITS 1975 APPROVAL AUTHORITY REQUEST FROM \$120 MILLION CONTAINED DP/74 TO \$80 MILLION AS SHOWN IN JUST PUBLISHED DP/74 ADD 1. THIS WOULD STILL CONSTITUTE A \$12 MILLION INCREASE OVER \$68 MILLION GC HAD PREVIOUSLY APPROVED FOR UNFPA FOR 1975. HE SAID THE HIGHER APPROVAL AUTHORITY LEVEL INTER ALIA WOULD PROVIDE FOR THE LARGE-

SCALE PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO GC FOR APPROVAL THIS SESSION.

3. SALAS ALSO SPOKE OF UNFPA COORDINATION ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE WPC CONSULTATIONS ON TECHNICAL LEVEL, WITH REGIONS AND FINALLY INTERREGIONAL, AND THE STUDY OF WORLD CONTRACEPTIVE SUPPLY SITUATION INVOLVING THE UN SYSTEM NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, SEVERAL COUNTRIES AND LEADING PRODUCERS OF CONTRACEPTIVE MATERIALS. HE ANNOUNCED A UNFPA CONTRIBUTION OF \$164,500 TO SUPPORT THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS AND ACTIVITIES. HE REITERATED HIS INTENTION TO REVIEW MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS AFTER TWO YEARS, AS RECOMMENDED AT COUNCIL'S 18TH SESSION AND HE SAID THAT AT THE 20TH SESSION, JUNE 1975, UNFPA WOULD PRESENT A DETAILED STATEMENT PAS YEAR ACTIVITIES, WOULD SUBMIT A REVISED FOUR YEAR WORK PLAN, AND WOULD SEEK FURTHER GUIDANCE THROUGH SUBMISSION OF PAPERS ON PROGRAMMING, PRIORITIES AND AN UNDATED CRITERIA PAPER FOLLOWING UP ITS EARLIER CRITERIA PAPER CONSIDERED AT 18TH SESSION OF GC IN JUNE 1974.

4. ALL 25 DELEGATIONS MAKING STATEMENTS INDICATED ARGUMENT THAT RAPID INCREASE IN REQUESTS FOR UNFPA ASSISTANCE VERY ENCOURAGING. THERE WERE NUMEROUS EXPRESSIONS OF SATISFACTION WITH WPC AND WPPA PARTICULARLY OF THEIR RECOGNITION OF THE INTERRELATIONSHIP OF POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF NATIONS IN DETERMINING THEIR POPULATION POLICY AND PROGRAMS. ALL DELEGATES SPEAKING SUPPORTED SALAS REQUEST FOR \$80 MILLION APPROVAL AUTHORITY, REGRETTED INABILITY MEET \$120 MILLION LEVEL SALAS SAID ACTUALLY NEEDED AND URGED INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEET NEW AND FUTURE NEEDS.

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00332 02 OF 02 312200Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 0332

5. ACTUAL PLEDGES ANNOUNCED WERE AS FOLLOWS: CANADA, \$3,520,000; SWEDEN, \$6,325,000; NORWAY, \$4,250,000; DENMARK, \$2,200,000; FINLAND, \$350,000; INDONESIA, \$75,000; FRG \$7,725,000; NETHERLANDS \$6,225,000; BELGIUM, \$425,000. IN ADDITION JAPAN, UK, NEW ZEALAND AND IRAN INDICATED INTENTION TO INCREASE CONTRIBUTIONS. SALAS STATED HE REASONABLY CERTAIN OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$60 MILLION IN 1975 WHICH IS TARGET.

6. THERE WAS A LARGE MEASURE OF APPROVAL OF UNFPA MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR GREATER UNFPA COORDINATION ROLE. HOWEVER, THIS PRAISE WAS TEMPERED AND PARTIALLY BALANCED OFF BY CRITICAL COMMENTS OF SWEDEN (SPEAKING FOR NORDIC COUNTRIES), FRG, CANADA, NETHERLANDS, UK, US, BRAZIL, INDIA RE THE NEED FOR UNFPA (1) PROVIDE MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION AND ADHERE TO EXPANDED STANDARDIZED FORMAT RE DOCUMENTATION THOSE LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS THEY REQUIRED SUBMIT TO GC FOR ITS APPROVAL (2) PAY INCREASED ATTENTION TO DELIVERY EXPENDITURES RATES (3) ENGAGE IN MORE AND BETTER EVALUATION ITS ACTIVITIES AND ANALYSIS ITS PROGRAM EXPERIENCE (4) FURTHER REFINE ITS CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES RE PROJECT APPROVALS. U.S. STATEMENT (STATEMENT POUNCHED DEPARTMENT) MADE PARTICULAR POINT TO RECOMMEND UNFPA AND THE GC BOTH NEED BEGIN STUDY THE OPERATIONAL INTERFACING BETWEEN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT. HOPEFULLY ALL THESE ITEMS AND ISSUES WILL BE ADDRESSED IN PAPERS
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PAGE 02 USUN N 00332 02 OF 02 312200Z

UNFPA WILL BE SUBMITTING TO 20TH SESSION GC IN JUNE.

7. ON PROGRAM MATTERS, THERE WAS WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR CONCENTRATING RESOURCES ON COUNTRY PROGRAMS WITH MORE DIRECT RELATIONS BETWEEN UNFPA AND GOVERNMENTS, AND FOR UNFPA REDUCING ITS FUNDING FOR GLOBAL, INTERREGIONAL AND REGIONAL PROJECTS. HERE U.S. DEL EXPRESSED VIEW THAT WHILE BULK OF UNFPA'S RESOURCES SHOULD GO FINANCE COUNTRY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, UNFPA ALSO SHOULD FUND VARIOUS, IMPORTANT GLOBAL, REGIONAL, INTER-COUNTRY AGENCY AND RESEARCH PROJECTS. ALL DELEGATIONS GAVE THEIR SUPPORT FOUR OF THE FIVE PROJECTS FOR WHICH UNFPA SOUGHT APPROVAL--NAMESLY, PROJECTS FOR COLOMBIA, TUNISIA, MOROCCO, YEMEN. HOWEVER GROSS INADEQUACY OF DOCUMENTATION CONTAINED IN PERU COUNTRY AGREEMENT PROPOSED BY UNFPA FOR APPROVAL \$2.8 MILLION FOR FOUR YEARS WAS ALLUDED TO OBLIQUELY BY MANY DELEGATIONS AND MENTIONED DIRECTLY IN U.S. AND UK DELEGATIONS' STATEMENTS. FOLLOWING NUMBER OF FRIENDLY

INFORMAL SESSIONS WITH THE PERU DELEGATION AND UNFPA STAFF, U.S. DEL IN ITS STATEMENT MADE POINT THAT COUNCIL NEEDED MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION ON COUNTRY FINANCED INPUTS AND ON THE SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES AND COSTS OF PROGRAMS VARIOUS COMPONENTS BEFORE IT SHOULD APPROVE PERU AGREEMENT FOR FOUR YEAR PERIOD AND THEREFORE U.S. DEL RECOMMENDED THAT PERU PROGRAM BE APPROVED FOR ONLY ONE YEAR (THE PERIOD FOR WHICH SOME BUDGETARY INFO WAS CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT) IN AN AMOUNT OF \$700,000 WITH REMAINDER AGREEMENT RESUBMITTED TO 21ST GC IN JANUARY 1976, AS RESULT FRIENDLY, LOW-KEYED DISCUSSION WITH PERU DEL AND UNFPA STAFF INITIATED BY U.S. DEL, PERU DEL IN DISPLAY OF COOPERATION AND ACCOMMODATION, SPEAKING IMMEDIATELY AFTER U.S. DEL, AGREED TO U.S. SUGGESTION SAYING THAT GOP WOULD WELCOME COUNCIL ADOPTION OF \$700,000 FOR FIRST YEAR AND THAT PERU WOULD SUBMIT ALL THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO UNFPA TO PERMIT REMAINDER OF PROPOSAL BE CONSIDERED AT THE 21ST SESSION, JANUARY 1976.

8. THIS WAS A HIGHLIGHT IN OVERALL ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDLINESS AND OBVIOUS DESIRE FOR COOPERATION AMONG ALL DELEGATIONS. RESPONDING TO POINTS RAISED IN DEBATE UNFPA DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HART SCHAAF SAID THAT IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 USUN N 00332 02 OF 02 312200Z

YEAR AHEAD UNFPA WOULD PUT EMPHASIS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMMES RATHER THAN PROGRAMMING AND PROMOTION. A GLOBAL MEETING IN FEBRUARY OF 21 COORDINATORS WOULD STRESS THE WAYS OF IMPROVING SUCH IMPLEMENTATION.

9. COMMENT: GC DISCUSSION CONTRASTED SHARPLY WITH DEBATE ON UNFPA TWO YEARS AGO IN ECOSOC (WHERE THERE WAS ACRIMONY AND WIDESPREAD RESISTANCE TO DISCUSSION OF POPULATION MATTERS) AND WITH DEBATES DURING WPC AT BUCHAREST. ANSWER MAY BE THAT LONG BUCHAREST DEBATES SERVED USEFUL PURPOSE OF ALLOWING SUFFICIENT FREE EXPRESSION CLEAR UP SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND THAT A CONSENSUS ON A WPPA WHICH WHILE POINTING OUT THE RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN POPULATION FACTORS AND DEVELOPMENT IS ALSO GENERAL ENOUGH IN LANGUAGE ALLOW VARIOUS INTERPRETATIONS WAS PRECISELY WHAT WAS REQUIRED. BENNETT

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